

**United States
Bankruptcy Court**

United States Bankruptcy Court

S. MARTIN TEEL, JR.



Judge Teel was appointed to the Bankruptcy Court in February 1988. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia, receiving a B.A. in economics in 1967 and a J.D. in 1970. Following law school, Judge Teel served as a law clerk to Judge Roger Robb of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. In 1971, Judge Teel joined the Tax Division of the Department of Justice where he served as an Assistant Chief of the Civil Trial Section from 1982 until his appointment to the Bankruptcy Court.

Office of the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court



Denise Curtis
Clerk of Court

The Office of the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court is responsible for the overall efficiency and accuracy of records and information processed in the court. The Clerk's Office also provides service to the judiciary, bar and public by managing the case files

and documents filed with the court. The Clerk's Office is responsible for accepting documents, collecting appropriate fees, scheduling cases, providing courtroom coverage, responding to inquiries, and providing notice of landmark events to creditors.

The Clerk's Office is organized into three areas: administration, automation, and operations. The administrative area is responsible for finance, procurement, property management, personnel, and management of the court's budget. The ad-

ministrative division also handles statistical reports, training, and special projects.

The automation area develops and oversees the court's information systems, including the data communications network, telecommunications, and the national case management system. The Automation Division also supports initiatives such as quality control and training, and prepares statistical and ad hoc reports.

The Operations Division consists of three sections: intake, case administration, and courtroom services. The Intake Section receives and screens new cases and documents, answers public inquiries and requests, and acts as a liaison to the public and bar. This section also enters data related to case openings and handles records. The Case Administration Section is responsible for docketing and case management including docketing pleadings, noticing parties, setting hearings, tracking deadlines, and managing the flow of bankruptcy cases. The Courtroom Services Section records court proceedings, handles exhibits, manages the judge's calendar, and serves as liaison to chambers regarding calendaring and case management issues.

U.S. Bankruptcy Court Advisory Committee

Advisory Committee on Local Bankruptcy Rules

Rule 83 of Title 28 of the United States Code permits each district to adopt local rules consistent with the Federal Rules. The court's Advisory Committee on Local Bankruptcy Rules was formed in 1985 to provide expert advice to the court as local rules are promulgated and changed. The committee, which is composed of local practitioners and U.S. Trustees, also acts as a vehicle for the receipt and submission to the court of comments on proposed rule changes.

The membership of the Advisory Committee on Local Bankruptcy Rules is as follows:

Paul D. Pearlstein, Chair	
Marc E. Albert	David Lynn
Stephen J. Csontos	Kevin R. McCarthy
Francis P. Dicello	Cynthia A. Niklas
Mary Joanne Dowd	Claire M. Whitaker
Dennis J. Early	William Douglas White
Judge S. Martin Teel, Jr., Liaison	

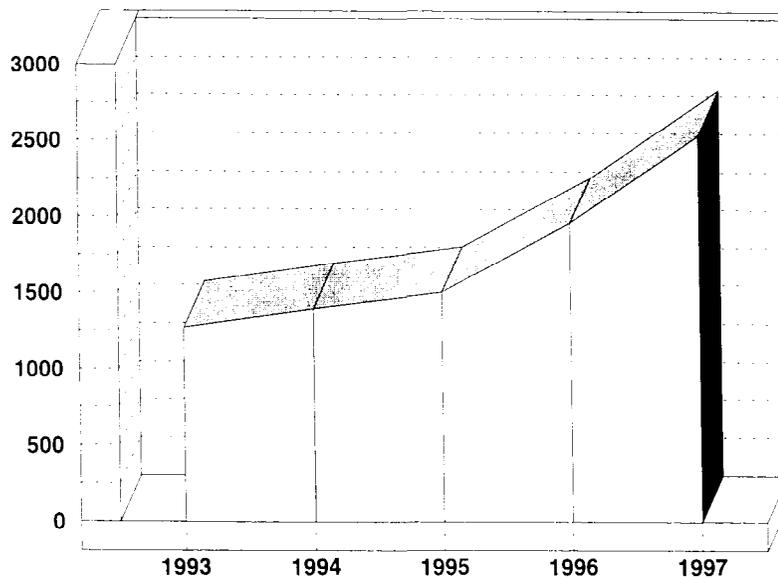
U.S. Bankruptcy Court Workload Information

Following an eight percent increase in 1995, bankruptcy case filings began a sharp upward climb in 1996, with a 31 percent increase in filings that year and a 29 percent increase in 1997. This increase is slightly higher than the national average for bankruptcy filings which increased by 26 percent in 1996 and by 23 percent in 1997. Similar to previous years, the ratio of business and non-business filings remained relatively constant, with non-business filings comprising 94 percent of the filings in 1996, and 96 percent in 1997.

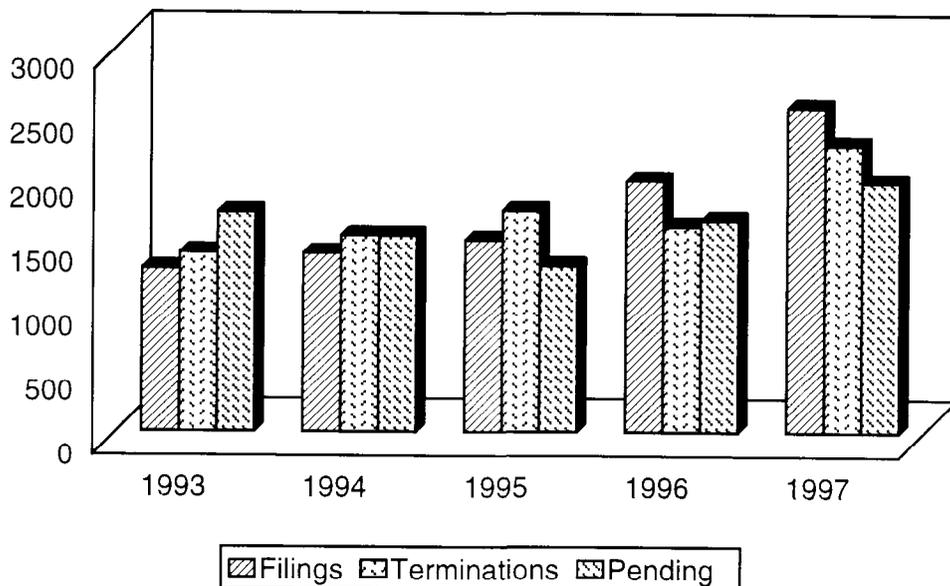
	1995	1996	Change	1997	Change
Filings*	1,502	1,961	31%	2,539	29%
Terminations	1,727	1,606	-7%	2,243	40%
Pending	1,300	1,654	27%	1,950	18%

* Includes reopened cases

**Case Filings
1993-1997**

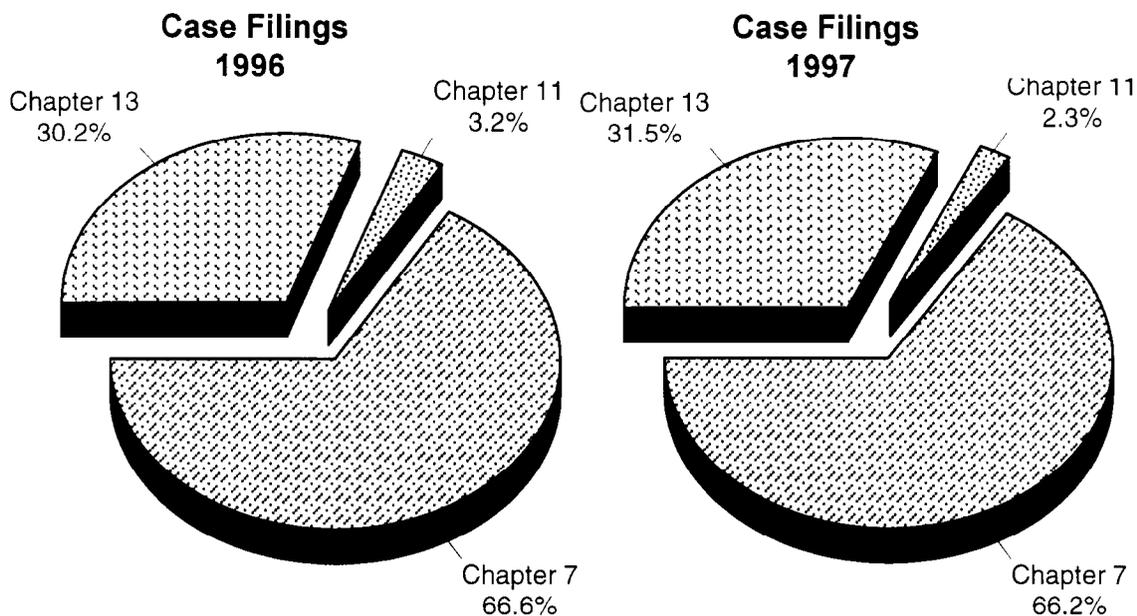


Caseload Summary 1993-1997



The composition of cases filed in 1996 and 1997 was consistent with the composition of filings in previous years. Of the 1,961 cases filed in 1996, 1,306 were filed under Chapter 7, 62 were Chapter 11 filings, and 593 were Chapter 13 filings. In 1997, 2,539 cases were filed: 1,681 under Chapter 7; 59 under Chapter 11; and 799 under Chapter 13.

After decreasing in 1994 and 1995, adversary proceedings increased by 20 percent in 1996 with 147 filings, and then declined by 27 percent in 1997 with 107 filings.

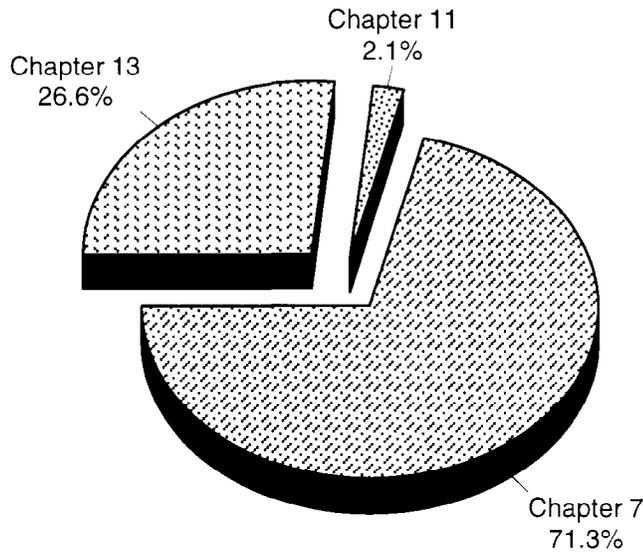


The total number of bankruptcy cases terminated decreased by seven percent in 1996 and then increased by 40 percent in 1997. Of the 1,606 cases closed in 1996, 1,145 cases were Chapter 7, 34 were Chapter 11, and 427 were Chapter 13. In 1997, 2,243 cases were closed: 1,675 were Chapter 7; 59 were Chapter 11; and 509 were Chapter 13.

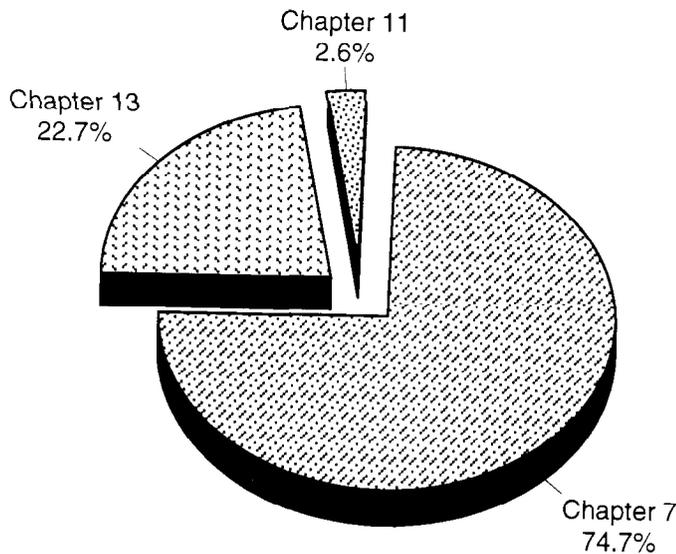
During 1996, 146 adversary proceedings were terminated (31 percent less than in the previous year), and 130 were terminated in 1997 (11 percent less than in the previous year).

Bankruptcy Case Terminations

1996:



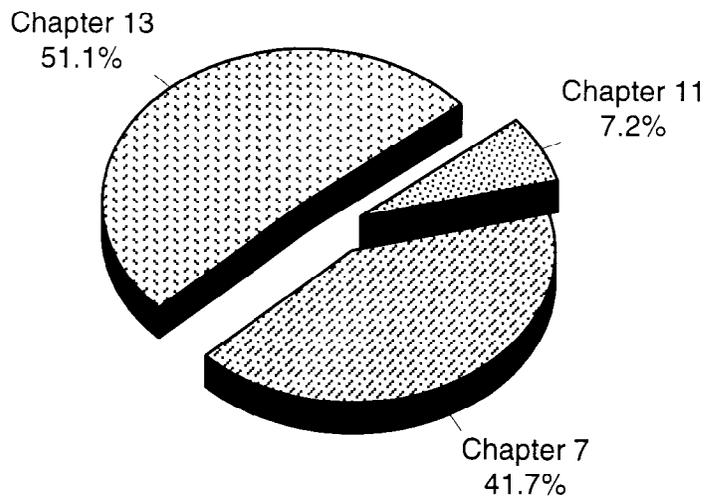
1997:



Similar to previous years, of the 1,654 cases pending at the end of 1996 and the 1,950 cases pending at the end of 1997, more than half were Chapter 13 cases (846 in 1996 and 1,136 in 1997). The bulk of the remaining pending cases, 689 in 1996 and 695 in 1997, were Chapter 7.

Pending Cases

1996:



1997:

